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M. Williams
memorial

al Collection

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library







[See page 132.]

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A. Post 8vo 1.25
Illustrated. Post 8vo . 1.25
Illustrated. Post 8vo 1.50
LEADS OF PROVENCE.
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ERS, PUBLISHERS, N. Y.

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ed January, 1910.

United States of America.

C. A.

**WITHOUT WHOSE H
COULD NOT HAV**

LEGEND OF THE CALLEJÓN DEL 1
LEGEND OF THE ALTAR DEL PER
LEGEND OF THE CALLEJÓN DEL 1
LEGEND OF THE ADUANA DE SA
LEGEND OF THE CALLE DE LA Q
LEGEND OF THE CALLE DE LA C
LEGEND OF THE MUJER HERRADA
LEGEND OF THE ACCURSED BELL
LEGEND OF THE CALLEJÓN DEL 1
LEGEND OF THE LIVING SPECTRE
LEGEND OF THE CALLE DE LOS 1
LEGEND OF THE CALLE DE LA J
LEGEND OF THE CALLE DE LA M
LEGEND OF THE CALLE DEL PUE
LEGEND OF LA LLORONA . . .

the popular imagination, has h
it among the people a story
popular heart.

Many of them simply are
tions gone wrong: being root
facts which have been disguised
additions, or distorted by the s
of successive generations of m
the passing centuries. Other
for their kernel some unacco
happening that, appealing to
for an explanation, has been
ously by various imaginative
degrees of perception and of in

[ix]

e conditions, of the time to
ng. Among the older people
Mexico, alike the lettered and
they still are cherished with a
nd are told with a lively relish
ed, among the common people,
The too-sophisticated younger
ppily, is neglectful and even
Soon, as oral tradition, they

ely, the permanent preserva-
these legends—and of many
sort—long since was assured.
serious meaning that is in

[x]

as may be seen—again to
recognized eminence—in the
renderings of many of the
Riva Palacio, and in the
them that Don Juan de
into charming verse. By
tinction, not antiquarian
collections of them have
the best is the sympathetic
R. de Arellano—in a pure
the playwrights have been
romantic of them—as the
Manuel—perennially popular
writers, in prose and in verse,
retellings are without end.

While the oral transmission

[xi]

es which give to them their
r and their peculiar charm.
ions of them, therefore, are
current among the common
the makers of them in the
passing them from heart to
to heart again through the
retained in them the subtle
distinguishes a built-up folk-
ry made by one mind at a
hose artless telling of them—
ent, full of repetitions and of
preserves the full flavor of
origin; and, most important of
souled faith in their verity is

[xii]

here given, that I late
City of Mexico. The
drew in Monterey were
old-fashioned, women
established such friend
them into freely confi
the most abundant yield
old Doña Miguelita (the
the affectionate diminut
loosely as a sort of bre
family with whom we
been alone I should no
tract any information
It would have been i

[x

old woman, with views of life and sound. As she was press in which the folk-stories of ed, she was the best of auth- ent popular versions of them: it through my wife that her came to me. Various other countered casually, similarly contribution by my wife for One of the most useful was a er of rebozos; another, of equal endly old body whom we fell railway station while waiting rs for a vagrant train. To me men would have been sealed.

years ago, and I
the Hôtel del Carré
that admirable library
Monsieur Gatillon
the City of Mexico
its loss.) Our ad-
ginning in my
professional capacity
friendship—still
similarity of taste
to my questions
many old buildings
tion in the course
then all new to us
serious respect for

y; and the books which he
ere certified to, later, by my
n José María Vigil, Director
Nacional, as standard au-
bought copies of all of them
ction of Mexicana that I then
form.

obliging as to spend several
quarters—coming to us in the
l luncheon and dinner when
ties were in abeyance—that
his dictation some of the
ns with which his mind was
dear Joséfa, he was an
y on the current popular
[xvi]

my
n he
y my
ector
au-
them
then

veral
n the
when
that
the
was
s an
ular

of his stories he
would deepen
bright brown ey-
his gestures—ne-
priate—would e-
words. With th-
he invariably ad-
and through his
frain of “ and s-
Señorita—that m-
each fresh turn
same time gave
of affirmative fin-
a few words of c-
hibiting the pop-

1

benefit. Some of his stories, complete, and undeniably startling in their elemental bawling: "Once some masons built an old house, and in the wall boxes of money. After that, rich"! In justice I should cinct narrative merely was ake-weight, at the end of a c hidden-treasure story—in ghost-lady, the hider of the ding part.

the intelligent interest that

[xviii]

softened—and even
thankfulness—by the
it was saved to me
with her grand-nephew
treasured in his
and who so freely
lasting gratitude—
enrichment of my

NEW YORK, *September*

THIS Don Juan
rich and worthy
bad vice of killing
eleven o'clock, when
striking, he went out f
—as you know, Señor
street that has been
muffled in his cloak, &
his hand.

Then he would meet
and would ask him
hour of the night?"
heard the striking of
"It is eleven hours (

¹ Se

And Don Juan Manuel
so light a penance had
and thought soon to ha'
soul.

But that night, at m
forth to do his penance, r
out from his own door t
his ears, and near him w
of a little bell. And he
which troubled him we
whom he had killed. A
in his ears so wofully, a
little bell was so terribl
keep onward. Having §
stomach was tormented

[3]



CAPILLA DE LA

the Espnacion, fell
down upon his kne
through.

And in the mornin
astonished, and ever
down to the cargado
Plazuela de Santo Do
to see! And the sigl
hanging dead on the
themselves had hung
sins!

everybody knew about them

er told me that this wonder
onvent of Santa Brígida when
little girl; therefore you will
hat it did not occur yesterday.
ne convent of Santa Brígida
ning—being big, and full of
more money than was needed
f it and for the great giving
here was at its doors. And
v, Señor, there is no convent
e church remains. However,
urch that the miracle hap-

[6]

in love. The young
came to know was u
Señor Carraza, and he
Doctors in the Roy
versity—which should
man. What he did t
I do not know. Bu
sent Sor Teresa in a
and when she got the
so well-behaved tha
held her up to all the
—and especially for
obedience. Whateve
did; and that without

ty sorrowing around her—
ust as she said she would die:
ng anything the matter with

festival that was coming, it
at she should be buried that
efore they made ready a
e for her; and they sent to
r a coffin for her, and the
d it was then, Señor, that
.. Perhaps, because she was
v, the carpenter thought that
l not been taken properly.
l so flurried, they really had

Then a wise old nun, Superior and whispered as in life Sor Teresa was perfect in obedience, and be perfect in obedience, devising that a command to fit into her coffin the old nun said, what was possible, that even if Sor Teresa she was told to do, no as but little time would be with her, and the case of their failure as it was. Mother Superior agreed.

utter of the Mother Superior's hand! Slowly her holy feet beyond the end of the coffin; and to the very edge of it; and then the edge of it; and then they upon the bottom of it with a most pious little bang. And , shrunk just as short as she d to shrink, fitting into her as you please! Then they have told you, Señor, in the e in the choir that was waiting are her blessed shrunken bones

[10] .

man who murdered 1
lady; and because of
the best of times the
lege, the scandal of
in the whole town.

At that time—it w
ago, Señor—there liv
is called, because of
Puente del Clérigo, a
who was named D
And she, being an orp
this priest: who was
and was a person o
of the orders of San
those days there we

use he was of a loyal nature
Therefore this noble young
love with Doña Margarita,
but her uncle, the Padre Don
at Don Duarte was a vicious
gambler, and in other ways
not have been—forbade his
ything to do with him. So
a while on those terms, and
ot like it at all.

ned on a night, Señor, that
at the window of Doña Mar-
s love for her through the

[12]

him; and then he we-
Not wishing to ha-
committed that mur-
go near Doña Marg-
year. And then—b-
would not suffer him
longer—he went in t-
once more at her wi-
heart the wicked pr-
out to him, and thei-

That did not happ-
is a terrible mystery.
it is this: Very early
bors living thereabou-
on the Bridge of the



where coffee
—and she
oldest man
one knew v
mother, or
called La]
all. One o
years passe
never grew

She led :
who was ii
hungry one
simply, and
She was a v
nobody real
On the san

partook of the
everybody; and
was believed that
was the Lord of
asnable. Every
as mad about her,
s from which she
vonders were told
, and could work
spoken about—
the blessed Santa
ate of Impossible
er who sought for

; another said that Inquisitors
and blood, and that she had
her own beauty. Men talked
use, neither then nor later,
nor what really had happened.
What did happen, Señor, was

chief Inquisitor went into the
casa that he might reason her
out. And, being come into her
long and lofty chamber that
he went into, Señor, not one of the
men he stopped short in amaze-
ment before him, drawn with char-
[18]

and the ship, and only a
of that wicked laughter
amber—and the ship had
lata was out of her prison

enor, who had seen this
ediately lost all his senses
n and was put into a mad-
ath gave peace to him, he
autiful woman in a great
igh stone walls and across
for the Mulata, nothing
of her. But it was gen-
ier master the devil had
vn.

[20]

t the vow was made for: and of whom I now am speaking myself, and most uncomfortably with an unfulfilled vow and had to take some of the otherwise would have spent ten among the angels in order to dead what he had promised he most certainly ought to have still was alive.

This gentleman who so badly, Señor, was Don Tristan de Lemos a humble but honorable knight who came from the Fili-

laden almost to sinking w
and gold.

With Don Tristan, who
came his son to help him
and this son was named T
most worthy young gentle
the management of merca
in their purses but a lig
merce at its beginning w
they took for their hom
little street so poor and so
had taken the trouble to
the very street that ever
been called the Alley of
cause of what happened
Tristan's unfulfilled vo

[23]

the bad season, and the rever-
ly that all in a moment the
gs of him fairly were inside

Then it was that Don
sore trouble because of his
ness, made the vow that I
bout. He made it to the
uadalupe; and he vowed to
ld save his son alive to him
would walk on his bare feet
to her Sanctuary, and that
ctuary he would make his
the deep depths of his soul.
irgin, being full of love and
leased to listen to the prayer
id to believe the vow that

[24]

two—saying to himself t
would not be in any hu
and then he put it off fo
and in that way—becau
was for keeping his vow
his old feet at dread of 1
cold earth under them,
come in his old thin le
rheumatism—the time s
the Blessed Virgin did n

But his soul was no
Señor—and it could no
playing fast and loose w
the whole matter before

[25

carry him all that distance—
of him. And so the upshot
Archbishop, being an easy-
good-natured gentleman,
stan from his vow.

or, is a vow—and even an
cast one loose from it; and
ut on this occasion, and in a
Blessed Virgin, while never
does not let the grass grow
her anger justly is aroused.
after Don Tristan had re-
tion—to which, as the event

mule had stopped short
clasped his hand with
icy coldness; then he
in a dismal voice, rushed
for his soul's saving help
that he had made to her.
knowledge had come to him
were not accomplished in
the whole of Eternity by
ing thus explained many
did Don Tristan have
did he even look back
slowly and painfully on
Our Lady's shrine.

around him, lying on his bed
is death-white cold hands
rest on the black pall covering
death-white face the very look
he went to the keeping of his
heretofore the Archbishop was
and a cold shuddering, and
in the head of him; and
nd all who were with him—
they were in the presence of a
hell to their knees in wonder—
had happened, and together
ace of Don Tristan's soul.

Señor, the Archbishop and
did not pray hard enough; or,

[28]

encounter as he marched south. Therefore everybody who could hurried to move away from him, and had it quite to himself in its quietness. In which reason, as I have mentioned, the spirit of the Dead Man became it.

I have been told by my old Spanish teacher, the Señor, and also by several persons, that Don Tristan—though he has been dead for three hundred years have passed—has not entirely given up his earthly goings. Certainly, for myself, I should not be surprised if that it would be judicious to go to the Callejón del Muerto at midnight.

[29]

ng of him was a very bad
emming, and a Jew, and many
he ought not to have been,
ught in the way to pass the
y—his wickednesses being so
me would have been wasted
him of them in Purgatory—
orments that the devil his
rive. He was a very agree-
man, of a cheerful and oblig-
oth witty and interesting in
which reason the Viceroy
g for his company and had
Palace to the banquets and

¹ See Note II.

the time of Don Ma
the fourth Viceroy
mained in favor—
Cathedral, desiring
del Perdon, offered
painters of Mexico
tiful picture of Our
picture was to be placed
altar and to be thereupon,
thereupon, all the
only Peyrens, entered
with a reverent and
it was, Señor, that
wickedness that was
blasphemies. At a

nt information of that evil
erances was carried to the
at that time was the vener-
ble Montúfar—and in another
himself lodged behind iron
he Inquisition: that blessed
teousness, for the comforting
it then was proving its use-
g down the weeds of heresy
zeal.

ncredible hard-heartedness,
ts nor the pleadings of the
Holy Office could stir Peyrens

[32]

that the Familiars of the I
tempers entirely—and w
counts with Peyrens by
ness out of him with heav

As it happened, Señor,
for such wholesome purify
minent: because at that ti
were being made for the
that ever was celebrated in
City was on tiptoe of joyf
Therefore everybody was in
a most pleased interest to s
stiff-necked painter—prop
coat with a red cross on it

[33]

he lay sleeping on his pallet
e Inquisition, Peyrens was
y he knew not how; and as
ound in his nose a smell so
e thought that he still was
se dreaming it: and for him
ught was quite reasonable,
was the pure fragrance of
, of course, human noses are
at filled the room. Then,
ll let wondering, a shimmering
ow softly in the darkness;
nstantly grew stronger and

[34]

his hard heart melted by that sweet voice, assured by that loving pallet and knelt before a deep earnestness: ' reverence and I love the me and with all my soul a serene strange happiness—fully—and when his be resplendent presence was still remained the heaven brighter than any sun perfume that was sweet lilies; and while he pond

[3

eant to set his wits to work
oy which he could obey her
rate, his wits did work so
ie spoke he saw his way out
d in an instant—all a-thrill
ss to do Our Lady's bidding,
ie splendor of his vision of
to painting the portrait of
n eyes had seen her in her
door of his cell.

ng, Señor—working by the
was brighter than any sun—
in his happy nose the heaven
ited his soul with the sweet-
ted as one who painted in a
. And when the morning

The Archbishop and
Cathedral, being brou-
felt themselves compell-
ulous image; and wh-
adoring it they equal-
pelled to declare that
of it had earned bot-
prize. Therefore Pey-
and most richly rewa-
door was taken from
framed in a great fram
the Altar del Perdon
it; and what was best
safe the soul of hir
Archbishop formally c-
[

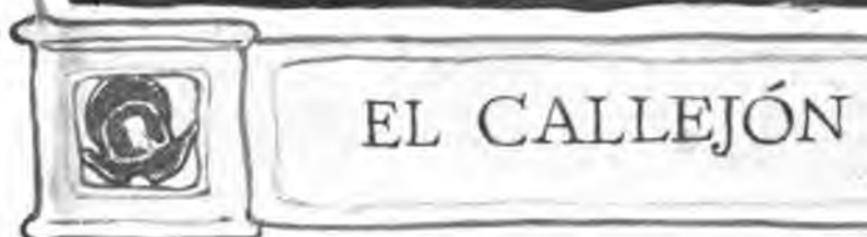
all that was known about name was Don Lope de Alcántara—that—for all that he lived in a mean a street in so mean a city—he was a rich merchant, from Spain.

Into his poor little house he came as much as the tip of his nose, there in great mystery. In fact, he had not even one servant to help him. He bought his own victuals and washed his own hands. Always he was armed to the teeth [*armado hasta la oreja*]. When he went abroad. Under his mail he had a light suit of armor, and in his belt

e Sacrament. Some said that
t windows of his house, in
they had heard the sound of
s he made penance for his

ss of the darkest of nights—
no moon, and especially when
g rain was falling—he would
out from his house in all his
aling away in the direction of
Mixcalco. He would disap-
adows, and not come back
ight had passed. Then he
in his shut house, counting
a long while that would go

[40]



pray.

The life of that man
Señor, that many wished
nouncing him to justice;
came of its own accord,
mystery still! On a moi
bors saw the Armed One l
ing dead from his own
No one knew what to thin
that he had hung himsel
denouncement of his crin
and that justice would hav
When the Alcalde came,
his house, a very great
found; and, also, were fo

[41]

a caballero of the Order
say that he wore also the
and the colonel of the
Villas. He was of a
ostentatious and arrogant
dilatory and apathetic to
So great were his riches t
self knew the sum of their
stand when I tell you th
state—it was the entry in
1716 of the new Viceroy, t
—pearls to the value of 1
were used in the mere tri

Being of an age to take

¹ See Note

was, but possessed of a
hat made her do more
usually by young ladies;
le house, and a blood
s: for which reason the
time was Don Juan de
Casafuerte—was much
affair.

his so notoriously lazy
all go upon wheels,
ara set herself—as was
g with any matter of
g about it very serious-

+]

hard in both directions, a direction make up her mi

While matters were in —Don Juan furiously in and Doña Sara thinking of hers about being tem Don Juan—something a new turn to the whol that happened was that t a great friend of Don Juan mentioned, was a kinsma much interested in all th —appointed Don Juan to

[45]

le on it, for a number
of the making of this
Consulado; and, nat-
of the Consulado was
an had been his pred-
o let the making of it

nat there came into the
Sara a notable project
on Juan's lazy apathy
of him; or whether, at
—over and above the
own in his furious love

J

the work
a number
g of this
nd, nat-
do was
pred-
of it

the
iect
hy
it
e

Aduana within six
day! And Don Juan
in love with Doña Sar-
that she gave him h-
it; and he—who neve-
of work in all his life
he would do the alr-
work that she had set
Aduana should be fin-
six months from that

And then all the C
for that matter, Don
fire and the force and
with which he set t-

time nor the turn of a hand, in every single instant the plan grew. And the upshot of it was that he had accomplished just what he had set out to do. And soul up he would accomplish in six months that Doña Sara had set him to do in three months. His work in, he did do it—time to spare. Three full months of his six months was enough for him to have finished to the very least detail; and Don Juan—triumphant fulfilment of an impossible condition—came perfectly completed to the satisfaction of all.

[49]

arrived here, he took
dwelling in the quar-
very street that now
Burned Woman be-
happened there; and
by some other name
ing I do not know w-

Doña Beatrice was
full moon and the best
and she was more virt-
ful; and she was just
fore all the young g-
mediately fell in love
numbers of the richest
their parents, or other-

the dread that so violent
a coarse and carnal
of such a nature, his
from his beblindment
her, and was not—as
pure love of soul for
pained by his being led
for which there was no
seriously, and even more
young men.

Therefore Doña Beatriz
ing and a great deal of
—made her mind up to
that in that way she

the sight in them to see
his testing; and, also,
angels the inconvenience
and then she fanned a
brazier until the purring
that the coals were
then, Señor, she plucked
down into the very heart
And it was at that same
Beatrice, of course, a
part of the matter—
Burned Woman got it.

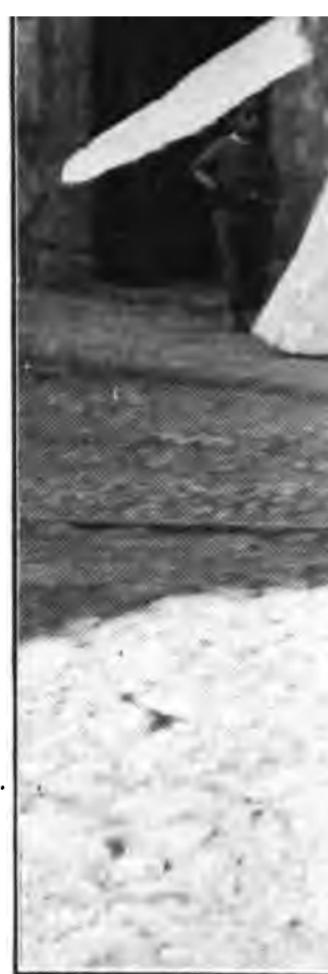
Being managed under
the approval of Santa

that dis-
shudder
dreamed
re, with
rtín im-
thence-
ceasing
ve her,
re love

onduct
nd that
yed.

on the corner of h
on which he saw th
hope to him, this
that is there still.

The house with t
stands at the corn
Verde—the street,
and the Calle de Mi
in the days when D
Now it is old and
once stood in the m
But there is an exc





LA

use to him that with one
of waiting his wits would
a day of days, when the
shining and all the birds
ngs together, Don Alvaro
the railing of Doña María's
bright green cross!

at, Señor, things went fast
espectable intervention of
he friend of Don Alvaro,
he friend of Doña María's
culties were cleared away
a fortnight after the green
the railing of Doña María's
ight seemed an endless

[62]

as his housekeeper, pretty
a house—it is gone now,
the street that is called the
ito Domingo. And he said
h certainly did live in a
las Rejas de la Balvanera—
had seen the house, and had
ife and the pincers cut on
bove the door. Therefore
, that my grandfather was
th these people, and that

secular, Señor, not belong-

See Note V.

[64]

acksmith that he wanted to
it. Therefore he got up very
ning and went to his com-
aning to ask him what was
journey that had to be taken
nd who those strange blacks
y had beaten his meritorious
he was come to the house
while before the door was
at last it did open, there was
asleep—and his compadre
t going on any journey, and
y he had not sent his mule
then, as he got wider awake,

[66]

as an agreeable memento of the
was very pleased with what he
unfortunately, this knight also
with him the Moor's armor—
bronze, and so curiously and so
ught that it evidently had been
, and which was farther charged
ss because it had been worn by
then, still more unfortunately,
o have the armor purified by
ils to be exorcised out of it by a
t. Therefore, of course, the
in the armor—ready to make
er they got the chance.

de Marcadante came to be the

[70]

ness; and that the staple
that the great chain was
Gil was gone! And the
horror of the jailer that
mad of it—the empty
walk up and down the cell.

After that time Don Gil
was he heard of, again
earth, when the time came
at the auto de fé, he
effigy. However—as they
about the place to which
him—everybody was well
his proper personal burn.

[73]

of it the two-headed eagle
other side of it a calvary
top of it, for its hanging
supporting a cross-bar in
Then it was hung in the
convent; and the Prior,
with him, were very mu-
worthy Prior, and those
ers, were not pleased for
the curses and the devils
and their chance to do
come!

On a night of blackness
ing whatever, the whol-

stair.

Then the Señor
that the bell was
self not knowing
down from the be
up and take chal
the Señor Cura,
hands, did come i
hisopo with him,
with holy water-
as he could see
tangle, the best t
his doing it, of co
that he could h

Being a very pains-
went at his work with
that for more than a y-
it. First he read all the
about bells in all the
the *Siete Partidas* of Al-
then he read all that
in such law books of
accessible to him; then
formation so obtained
ularized the facts of the
consideration and ap-
his opinion upon them
came before the Conse-
his opinion from begin-

o good Christians.

, being possessed of a devil,
ngue torn out: so that never
re to ring of its lone devilish
f human souls.

1, being dangerous to good
oe banished from the Spanish
Indies, and forever should
and exiled over seas.

wise sentence was executed.
1 bell was taken down from
ttle convent, and its wicked
ut of it; then it was carried
h insults to the coast; then

[80]

than a century ago—became
soon as that most energetic
he wanted to know in a h
posed to let anything or any
ness—why a bell that needed
it to make it serviceable wa
ployed. For some time no
anything more about the be
was a curse upon it; and th
satisfy him, because curses
much in his very practical m
a very old clerk in the Secreta
bell's true story; and proved
bringing out from deep in

[81]

ie time of the Viceroy Don
—and among his repairings
it of the Palace clock. Now
does not need a tongue in
ith hammers from the out-
nde, whose wits were of an
l in a moment that by em-
a clock-bell he could make
hout traversing the king's
hat was what immediately
d that was how the Palace
foisted upon it this accursed

bell in the place of it ar
down. What was done
the bell was melted, Señor
I have been told by an
acquaintance that nothin
because, as he very po
when the bell was melted
sour in the furnace and re

If that is true, Señor, i
those devils in the bell
from the Moor and fro
armor and from Don Gil
had some strength for wic
even in their old age.

[83]

o had this strange thing happen
treet, was named Lanza; but he
everybody Lanchitas—according
of giving such endearing dimin-
names of those whom we love.

be loved, this excellent Padre
ause he himself loved every-
y gave to all in sickness or in
ng aid. Confessing to him was
nd his absolution was worth
e it was given always with the
e good God. My own grand-
m well, Señor, having known a
seen him when he was a boy.

¹ See Note VII.

friend—and glad to get the rain and the cold—he was seen woman plucking at his wet coat to him. And the old woman implored God's mercy to come quickly to the dying man. Now that is a priest may not refuse; but joining them would inconvenience who could not play at the wedding without him, he asked the woman if she would not go to the parish priest of the village where the dying man was. And she answered him that only to him could a man confess; and she begged God's mercy to hurry with

[85]

...naa viceroys, instead of the
ário; and it has no windows—
or for the entering of carriages at
nd a small door in the middle of
small door at the other end. A
s charcoal, Señor, lives there now.
e middle door that the woman
Lanchitas. The door was not
at a touch she pushed it open
nt together—and the first thing
re noticed when he was come
oorway was a very bad smell.
of smell, Señor, that is found in
es of which all the doors and

room.

That he might see him confess, Padre Lanchita took his hand and went to the bed where he pulled aside the ragged sheet that covered him; and with a very cold qualm in his heart he said to the woman: "This man cannot confess! And he has been dead for a very long time. What was true, Señor—for who?—was the bony head, with yellow hair over it, having shut eyes. The two hands which rested on the man's breast were no more."

[87]

had a rusty note in it the
ld after that, of course, there
he Padre to do but to listen
l.

Señor, being told under the
of course remained always
was known, later, that he
which had happened a good
s back—as the Padre knew
great reader of books of his-
e put himself into the very
atters and made the terrible
l committed a part of them;
ed by telling that in that
ld been killed in a brawl sud-

it the
, there
listen

er the
always
at he
a good
knew
of his-
e very
errible
them;
that
I sud-



come back again out
sins and to be shrivered
the Padre did hearken
confession of his sins
them, this one chance
given him would be
back he would go forward
of hell.

Therefore the Padre
time, that the man had
fever—let him talk over
story of his frightful sins
shrive him, to quiet him.

ough the still open door into
sooner had he come there
osed behind him sharply, as
on the inside had pushed
to shut it fast.

He had expected to find the
ng for him; and he looked
rywhere, desiring to tell her
nd for him when the man's
at he might return and hear
real confession, and really
ins. But the old woman was
iking that she must have
the darkness into the house,
door lightly, and then loudly;

He had walked so fast
wet with sweat when he
to dry it he put his hand
handkerchief; but his hand
his pocket—and then I
have dropped it in the
man lay. It was not
kerchief, Señor, but one
—having the letters s
worked upon it, with a
that had been made for
acquaintance in a convent
almoner; and so, as he did
it, he sent his friend's seal
to get it back again. A

• ,

[9]

ave Padre Lanchitas his true
the house—because of some
atters—had stood locked fast
much as a lifetime; and he
re Lanchitas must be mixing

some other house—which
ce all that had happened had
dark. But the Padre, on his
t he had made no mistake in
hey both got a little warm in
nd they ended by agreeing—
it come to a sure settlement
old house, and the notary to

Lanchitas would not a
proof against him, that
the notary, smiling at hi
him, picked out the dus
got the key into it and
rusty bolt of the lock—
inside.

Coming from the br
dusky place—lighted o
and the door but part w
loose on its old hinges
could see at first nothi
room was empty and
find, though—and the

[9.

very. By that time his eyes
stomed to the shadows; and so
one corner—lying on the floor
where the man had lain whose
hand taken—a glint of something
ñor, it was his very own hand-
had lost!

ugh to satisfy even the notary;
ore was to be done there they
dly, from that bad dark place
e. As for Padre Lanchitas,
mazed and daunted—know-
rible truth that he had con-

telling you—that appeared
at noonday, and was seen
altogether out of the or-
n the least a dead persón,
ore his own flesh and bones
er and was alive in them;
was walking and talking
ayor of this City of Mexico
e moment that he also was
g in a most remote and
t of the world. Therefore—
ng his own flesh and bones
and being alive in them—
ie was a spectre: because it

e Note VIII.

[96]

every particular all that
is strictly true.

Because it began in
the same time, it is not
Señor, which end of the
of it; but the beginning
being the day that I left
the sentries on guard at
Palace—and also the
happened to be walking
Mayor—of a sudden a
sentry pacing his beat
of the Palace quite alone.

[

t belonging to any regiment
ered here: being, in fact—as
ne of the sentries who had
inas—the uniform worn in
ce Guard. He was a man
outs; well set up and sturdy;
sured carriage—even in his
bemazement—of an old
en much campaigning, and
re of himself through any
i he might happen to land.
—when the time came for
mself—went with a devil-
it that showed him to be a

[98]

answer—speaking with
not in the least ruffled
ness with him—that he
that he came from the
he was doing was his
come to it: because he
stand sentry that mor
nor's Palace—and altl
Governor's Palace bef
posted it certainly wa
and that he therefore
he could do. And to
ments he added—quite
ferring to an ordinary
terest—that the Gover

ok into. Theretore before the
that time was the good Don
-Gil Pérez was brought in a
Viceroy he told over again
ory, in just the same cool
ist the same words.

the Viceroy put a great many
him; and to those questions
ers—or said plainly that he
y answers—with the assured
er who would not lightly suf-
doubted even by a Viceroy;
dy, in dealing with persons
e, to make good his sayings
ith his sword.

[100]

Palace in Manila to the Viceroy's Palace. Gil Pérez was at a loss to know what had happened, than Don Luis himself could be sure of what had happened, because, certainly, on his return he had been in Manila; and he was in the City of Manila, the Viceroy could see with his own eyes. As to the event of the rebellion, he knew that on the 15th of January the Governor of the Philippines had been murdered, and that the rebellion had been suppressed in the Molucca Islands.

Viceroy
fore the
od Don
ht in a
r again
ne cool

t many
estions
hat he
assured
ly suf-
iceroy;
persons
ayings

his ease before the viceroy:
planted, and his right hand
s right arm akimbo—and so
ever might happen to be the

one thing of which anybody
re in this amazing matter—
ourse, everybody was sure—
was at both the bottom and
also, there seemed to be very
lieving that Gil Pérez was in
h with the devil than any
ven though he were an old
nuch in the way of Chris-

[102]

all as it came along to him disturbed. He said cheer in the course of his sojourn in much worse places; having a good roof over fair rations, and instead of being only to sit at his ease—he really was getting as much of clear comfort a right to expect would over, in his dealings with the Holy Office his conduct stuck firmly to his assertion the devil might have had

[103]

nience of Gil Pérez without
t in the matter; and so it
fair—in the face of his pro-
much annoyed as anybody
evil had done with him—to
me-covered sanbenito, and
be burned for a sorcerer at
5. Therefore the Familiars
kept on putting their heads
ng and puzzling as to what
h him; and Gil Pérez kept
in his cell in Santo Domingo
is went on and on.

[104]

one of the military office
the Filipinas in the g
Acapulco to the City
conducta, recognized G
that he laid eyes on hin
that he had seen him-
before the galleon's saili
with the Palace Guard.
settled beyond all doubt
been brought by the dev
City of Mexico; and, a
since only the devil cou
put the knowledge of th
Don Gómez into his h

[105



del Cardonal, Conde de V
was a handsome gentle
mills in Puebla of the Ang
hacienda, and was so rich
business of two old notar

And these two posted 1
in the street in which wa
—one at the corner of th
other at the corner of the
arina—that they might 1
came forth from her hous
see them waiting to get
know that they loved he
custom then, Señor, as i
way all of our polite you:

[109]

p sometimes, and they could
their watch for her—and in
opened that neither of them
s dead and gone. Therefore
ding on their parade quite as
adfastly to their corners day
onth after month, and year
although, after a while, they
stood at their posts—just as
Doña María still were alive.
corners, they have remained

7.

, that once in broad daylight
those honest waiting skeletons.

[110]



HOME OF

viceroys were here who were
g of Spain.

there lived in this fine house
the Calle de Mesones and what
been called the Calle de la Joya
orthwest corner, Señor, and a
on the lower floor—a very
rchant: who was named Don
z de Bobadilla, and who was
some man, and gentle-ma-
nes given to fits of rage. He
a very rich and a very beauti-
s named Doña Ysabel de la
and she was the daughter of
rrereal. This lady was of an

[112]

was his office of affairs
rooms where the biscu
that letter he was bid
his wife's doings wit
José Raul de Lara, the
—who was a forlorn
not at all deserving
Don Alonso did watch
watching was a very te

He pretended, Señor
portant affair with the
keep him at the Palace
and so went his way fr
evening—but went no
paces from his own do

[:]

agger. What he found—and
gry that he fell into one of his
of rage over it—was the
g on the wrist of his wife a
elet. When they saw him,
s at once went white—and
ined white always: because
re the blood could come back
the two of them with his
were white in death! Then
what gave to this street the
et of the Jewel. From Doña
wrenched loose the bracelet,
house he pinned it fast with
to the door.

[114]

strict order of the Franciscan
foot—and it was in the con-
inos, over there at the west-
meda, that he ended his day

y so great an impropriety;
that a greater blame attached
to uncle, for punishing her—
which she deserved punishment
to inheritance depend upon so
igneous a condition; and some
the greatest blame of all rested
because he did not forbid an
as planned to—and that did
the Plaza Mayor directly in
, and so beneath his very

Señor, I think that the
had more blame than any-
was free to make her own

[116]

At that time there 1
ever since that time has
of the Machincuepa a
noble Spanish gentlema
Mendo Quiroga y Saure
Marqués del Valle Salac
was neither rich nor in
good blood: having been
known father and born
and having in his youth
out of Spain as a com
fortune on the sea. The
sea was a matter that
tongue from talking at
but it was known ge

[11

himself in the world lonely
—never having perceived
marrying—he had no wife
children whose duty it was
needs. Therefore—his bro
that time dying, and leav
hind him—he brought fro
brother's daughter, whom
of his magnificent house
confided himself in his inf
And, that she might be rep
him, he heaped upon her ev
and splendor that his g
procure.

[119]

greatest lady at the viceroy's
of a jealous and rancorous
very charitable, and excessive-
r pride was beyond all words.
the young men in the City im-
love with her; and she won
of the most eminent clerics
of the very greatest nobles
nice was her sense of her own
in the privacy of her own
conduct at all times was marked
elegance; and in public she
with a grave stateliness that
became a queen.

[120]

give him one singl
As was most natur
the way that Doña
in the inside of him
he would pay her fo
end he did pay he
when, on a day,
called to go to hea
his will.

Doña Paz listene
with the greatest s
reading got to the
Mendo uniformly s
—which somewhat
words directed th

Paz, my beloved niece,
ny possessions; but only
y precisely with the con-
upon her. And the con-
upon her is this: That,
richest ball dress, and
nificent jewels, she shall
to the Plaza Mayor at
eing come to the Plaza
to the very middle of it;
> very middle of it, she
> the ground; and that
all make the turn which

And this condit
niece Paz that, i
of it, she may t
with which her «
years.”

Well, Señor, y
that most proud
was in when she l
her riches would
ing her mind up
quite impossible.
say to herself tha
win her inherita
with, in no more
and always—bei
•

the Plaza Mayor; and the crowd making way for her of it—where her servants for her; and there, as the twelve—complying precise condition—Doña Paz bought ground; and then, so bought turn which among the Mexico is called a machine. Paz won for herself Don dollars: and so did come into bitterness of shame that should come into it—in bitterness with which her criminal dying years!

[125]

the days when he was all
however, matters are less
father long ago told me
on nights of storm, he has
uttering his wicked caws
the thunderclaps; and a
gadour of my acquaintance
for it that he has heard tell
if they still go on it must
that gives voice to them;
ravens are very long-lived
that they live—and that
since these matters happen
than the whole of three 1

[127]

were a beggar—and a
Over his jerkin and
capellar that wrappe
his heels loosely; an
worn by him throug
was shabby beyond
stained with stains of
greasy and soiled.
upon his breast, he w
that the King had
that cross, as you k
much of a caballero :
ous other ways the ev
itself. He never we
fun openly of all ho

was known that th
Rodrigo had beaten
drawn blood from it;
the master of both of
dreadful act of sacri
suddenly home to hir
That was the very pro
were they seen again

Naturally, Señor,
clined to live in a ho
such shocking doings
in the adjoining ho
that was on the nei
from them. And so,
on, all of those house

n, between the next thunder-
d the raven caw twelve times.
known that the raven nightly
on the parapet of the bridge
t street; and that, when his
ight was ended, he habitually
e balcony of Don Rodrigo's
on the balcony he found Don
ow skeleton, and over the
dirty old capellar—ready and
n. Don Rodrigo's skeleton
g quite at its ease on the
railing of the balcony would
raven; and with his dry-bone

[132]

and these disagreeable possible; and it is most since the street got its n that they really must ha they must have conti time.

As I have mentioned cargador—who is a most ful person—declares tha nights he himself has he when the Palace clock strokes; and from that it raven is to be met wi Cuervo even now.

[13]

gh the streets like a blazing
g forth from her nostrils
and flames: because the
hile a dangerous animal to
s no harm whatever—and
mful as she can be!

ig quietly along the quiet
; when she is not running,
er lost children—she seems
, only odd looking because
oat and the white reboso
i is covered, and anybody

ee Note IX.

[134]

tinued for a long time.
began to prick her about
children; but whether
spoke to her, or that s-
tioned her in the matter
it is certain that because
began to go through the
weeping and wailing.
said that from night till
wailing woman in the s-
being in terror of her, n-
at midnight; but none could
be seen only when
and she was alone.

[13]

would vanish instantly and
nd the watchman would feel
; senses had gone from him,
e as a dead man. This hap-
es to many watchmen, who
t to their officers; but their
believe what they told. But
l night, that an officer of the
g by the lonely street beside
anta Anita. And there he
n wearing a white reboso and
and to her he began to make
her, saying: "Throw off your
ay see your pretty face!"
le uncovered her face—and

[136]

moment by different pec-
apart: one seeing her
atrium of the Cathedral
Arcos de San Cosme; and
Salto del Agua, over by
More than that, in one si-
seen in Monterey and in Oa-
—the whole width and ler-
—and whoever speaks w-
cities, as here in Mexico,
fright. Also, she is seen at
Once some travellers co-
road met with her, and as

[137]

sound of her running feet,
and especially in nights of
Señor, have heard the run-
nd her wailings; but I never
od forbid that I ever shall!

Viceroy's action in enriching his
host. "Odious gossip" was aroused;
of a popular uprising; an appeal—
bribes to assure its arrival at the
to the King. "But the springs put
viceroy must have been very powerful
than the money sent by the Audiencia
confirmed Don Juan in the enjoy-
sion."

thus rested, an incidental scandal
to it. By the fleet from Spain came
cel de Velasco: a lady of good birth,
widow of a naval officer, reduced
and by other misfortunes to poverty.
says she had been a beauty at Court,
rqués de Cadereita had known her
to her; wherefore she had come to
Viceregal protection. Housing her
g out of the question, the Viceroy

[142]

Audience,
rotest was
ching his
aroused;
appeal—
l at the
ngs put
owerful
liencia
enjoy-

ndal
ame
irth,
ced
ty.
rt,
er
o

r
.



HOUSE O

corded—was signed by one Pereira: who, as Señor Obregón a Judge of the criminal court (*no era solamente un Alcalde criminal*) because he made Doña Mariana as the price of It would seem that Doña offered terms; and in so great content to wait upon the Alcalde for the complete ratification by Pending such liquidation of carried to Don Juan in prison tions in progress to procure he procured it for himself, or Going straight to his own Alcalde—and incontinently

That one killing that Don Juan did commit—out of which,

[14]

they were effective. Certainly, on a
ber, 1641, precisely as described in the
n Manuel was found hanging dead on
ront of the Capilla de la Espiración.
concludes the historical portion of his
e words: "The Oidores, whose orders
to suppose brought about that dark
it to the angels—but there history
begins."

the course of my readings—I cannot
—I have come upon the seriously
that Don Juan Manuel practically
t the favors which he received from
e his payment for putting politically
s out of the way. This specious ex-
-count for his traditional many mur-
in accord with probability. Aside
t bravos rarely are men of rank and
of murders traceable to political mo-
Viceregal term of the Marqués de



DOORWAY. HOUSE (

of prudence, to forestall by his own
arge that might be brought against
nced himself," on September 10,
olomé de Ledesma, Gobernador de la
result of his confession—instead of
e absolution that he obviously ex-
-he was arrested and cast into prison.
, September 14th, he was examined
e questions propounded to him, he
ce: That he had been born in Ant-
Fero Peyrens and of Constanza Lira
was not of Jewish descent; that none
been dealt with by the Inquisition;
manhood he had gone to Lisbon and
here the Court then was seated, to
sion as a painter; that he had come
the suite of the Viceroy, in the hope
ortunes. In regard to the charges

[146]

mitted to the test of torture." The December 1st—when Peyrens "suffered the rack and swallowed three fingers into his mouth by a linen rag," enlarging his previous declaration of the game—he having, in the jargon of the time, "conquered his torment"—the torture should have ended. Léonard on his case ("The Inquisition and its Dependencies," p. 198), writes: "Peyrens earned his dismissal, but on December 1st he was condemned to pay the costs of his security that he would not leave the country. He had painted a picture of Our Lady for the altar-piece for the church. He was duly hung in the Cathedral."

I have not found—seemingly, any record of the actual painting

[147]

it and to me pleasing, and that
he is painting this altar-piece he
under penalty of being punished
disobedient to the mandates of
admonish and command the said
from this time forth he shall not
lose for the speaking of which he
shall he question any matters
of the Catholic faith under penalty of being
and in addition I condemn him
to trial, and this is my definitive
and I pronounce and order it in

El D^{or} Estevan de Portillo

nth of december of the year one
hundred and sixty eight was given
definitive sentence of the above
sor doctor barbosa (*sic*) provisor
of the Archbischopric of Mexico in the

[148]

of the ex-Aduana—the building custom-house—still may be re-inscription that sets forth the i García Somera y Acuña, the furiously toiled:

**Siendo prior del Consulado el corone
de Celis, caballero del Orden de
Garza de Alvarado del mismo Ord
Serafin Chacon, se acabó la fabr
Aduana en 28 de Junio de 1731.**

NOTE I

LEGEND OF THE CALLE [

SEÑOR ARELLANO has documented the Green Cross by adding to his system the following note: "Some years

[149]

lasted less than seven years. The now shabby house whereon the cross at anciently was a dignified quarter the niche for a saint, vacant now, one of the characteristics of the old people of condition lived. The cross her house in the City is ornamented

NOTE V F THE MUJER HERRADA

legend has for its foundation an al: that—being too notorious to be purpose was given to the public in a ay. Certainly, the story seems to shape by the clerics—the class most cking such open abuses—with the [150]

them. Thence he
to arouse her th
found that she w
more closely, the
to her feet the fo
divine justice thi
blacks were dem
and not knowing
so terrible, they
Dr. Don Francisco
Santa Catarina; a
On their return
Father José Vida
him a Carmelite
[By whom sumn
gether examining
bit in her mouth
are not mention



esus, whom he communed, greatly
pected, until his death at the age of

He referred always to this case

A memoir of Father José Vidal, of
virtues and for his preaching, was
r Juan Antonio de Oviedo, of the
, and was printed in the College of
the year 1752. In that memoir,
, this case is mentioned; a record of
ound among the papers of Father
adds that he himself heard the case
enten sermon preached by a Jesuit
ch of the Profesa in the year 1760.

writes: "In the Calle de las Rejas de
casa de vecindad [tenement house]
called the Casa del Pujabante: be-
e and tenazos [farrier's knife and
ed on the stone lintel of the doorway.
e seen many times. It was said to
in which the blacksmith lived, in

[152]



NO. 7 PUERTA FALSA □

NOTE

LEGEND OF THE AC

THIS legend affords an interesting growth. As told by Señor Olvera, it is of a church bell "in a little room" being possessed by a devil, ran amuck without human aid; and for this reason was sent to have its tongue torn out by the Devil. As told by Señor Alvarado, it was a bell with armor that was devil-possessed, and the Devil-possessed Gil de Mendoza recast it into a cross wherein the Devil was imprisoned and harmless; the cross is recast into a bell, and the loosed devils have possessed it again. The story goes on as before. As told by Señor Juan de Dios Peza, the legend starts with a bell which is charged with the Devil's power.

[153]

ip the bandits commit all manner of
gain the country folk rally to fight

Many of the bandits are killed, but the
ieless. Swords and lances pass through
hout injuring him. In the blaze of burn-
the armor becomes white-hot, but he is
wise hermit counsels exorcism. With
weapon the devil-leader is overcome and
within the armor they find—nothing at
folk-story fashion the narrative rambles
ls of the escape and recapture of the
hundred times.” In the end, following
hermit’s counsel, the armor is cast into
then, being melted, is refounded—to the
t of diabolical shrieks and groans of
cross. A curious and distinctive feature
is that the devils imprisoned in the cross

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lip, the words "Salve Regina, Rodrigo me fecit 1530." From its arrival in Mexico until the eighteenth century it reposed in the Palace. There it was (1789-1794) the Conde de Rebolledo, a very energetic personage, to whom it was abhorrent, promptly was it in accordance with his orders, it was placed in the central doorway of the Palace clock; and in that position it

¹ "La Cruz del Diablo," with a translation by Gustavo Adolfo Becquer, all very well worth reading in the accurate translation recently published by Charles E. Bates and Katharine Lee Bates in *Legends of Spain* (New York, Thomas Y. Crowell, 1892), in the original Spanish, with the English translation and a vocabulary, in the collection of Dr. Everett Ward Olmsted under the title *Spanish Stories and Poems by Gustavo Adolfo Becquer*.

HEAD MAN WAS CONFESSED



body in which was a living soul.

Aside from minor variants, two distinct legends of this legend are current. That which is contained in my text is the more popular. The other, which is the older and better known, has for its scene an old house in the village of Olmedo—nearly a mile away from the village of Padre Lecuona, and in a far more ancient part of the city. Concisely stated, the Calle de la Muerte is to this effect:

Brother Mendo, a worthy and kind friar, is met of a dark night in the street by a man who calls him to come and hear a dying person. The friar wears the habit of his Order, and has a rosary hanging from his neck. He is led to a house, where he finds within the house a very beautiful woman, who is bound and clad in silks, whose arms are bound. The man who has brought him here is in a dying state and is unable to speak. The friar asks him for an explanation. For answer, the man tells him: "This woman is about to die by violence."

to the Mexican story, however serious historians in association incident of, an otherwise well-tragedy.

That Don Gómez Pérez Dasí Filipinas, did have his head broken off it, in the Molucca Islands, on the year 1593, and that on that of his so-painful ending was mainly based the legend, are statements of natural and which equally rest upon author as appears from Señor Obregón's legend, that I here present in a

Guarded testimony in such a marvel of the story is found in a book of the period, *Sucesos de las Islas Molucas*, by the learned Dr. Antonio de

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so, and the other a Spaniard named
s—whose mission was to ask the
Spaniards in repelling an invasion of
threatened by the King of Siam. As
a King to the Governor, the em-
peror beautiful elephants (*dos hermosos*
are the first ever seen in Manila."

ez promised readily the assistance
the intention of using a pretended
odio as a cloak for a real expedition
as. To this end he assembled an
of four galleys and of attendant
which he embarked a considerable
, along with the soldiers, certain
id venerable religious." His prep-
pleted, he sailed from Manila on
A week later, the capitana galley,

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to that bad end as a just reward. On various occasions he argued and disputed" with the Bishop in support of this view of the Governor's deserved punishment. Manila and in Mexico by some Manila the announcement was made every day of his killing there on the Convent of San Agustin] on the wall painted a crack that corresponded to the splitting of his skull." Of the legend, he said in terms: "It is worthy of deep consideration that on the very same day on which took place the death of Gómez Pérez that tragedy was the work of Satan: who, making use of his natural agility inclined to such agilities (*algunas semejantes agilidades*), caused the death of the Plaza Mayor of the City of Manila.

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si lector, dijeres, ser comento,
mo me lo contaron te lo cuento."

NOTE IX

LEGEND OF LA LLORONA

is not, as all of the other legends are, of
an origin: it is wholly Mexican—a direct
primitive times. Seemingly without
certainly without noting—the connection
Aztec goddess and this the most widely
all Mexican folk-stories, Señor Orozco y

Nahuaque [Universal Creator] created
man and a woman who were the pro-
human race. . . . The woman was called

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frightened (*asombraba*), and is evident from these citations stray from Aztec mythology, goddess living on—her power potent—into modern times.

She does not belong especially to the Aztecs. The belief in her—once confined, the region primitively understood, has become localized in many parts of the country. This diffusion is a recognized characteristic of folk-lore; those who believe in them; an explanation reasonably may be traced to the Conquistadores of strengthenments by planting beside the crosses which the Aztecs: who, under their Christ—*as to this day the so-called* *Chichimecas* hold to—their old-time faith.

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tragedy of Viceregal times. In that for more than two hundred as been current in varying forms 1, clad in white, who runs through y at midnight uttering wailings that whoever hears them swoons

Then follows the story: Luisa, is a woman of the people, very er, Don Muñó de Montes Claros,

That he might make a marriage rank, he deserted her. Through se she saw him at his marriage homeward and killed—with a o had left in her keeping—her eeping. Her white garments all blood, she left her dead children ough the streets of the City— of her sorrow and her sin. In the

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